

Minutes of a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life Held 15 December 1995, at 10:00 a.m., at Loyola Campus, AD-131.

Present: Dr. D. L. Boisvert, Chair; Ms. J. Chegrinec, Secretary; Mr. B. Counihan; Mr. H. Zarins; Dr. S.M. Graub; Ms. A. Kerby; Mr. R. Côté; Ms. D. Cooper; Ms. C. Sbrocchi; Mr. A. Feldman; Ms. E. Robinson; Mr. N. Baidoun; Mr. K. Lowther; Dr. I.M. Barlow; Ms. L. Lipscombe; Mr. C. Macdonald.

Absent: Ms. A. Siano; Ms. A. Coombs; Mr. D. Ellison; Mr. S. Zacharias; Ms. L. Kuilman; Dr. R. Bonin; Ms. L. Prendergast; Ms. A. Vroom.

Delegates: Ms. C. MacLaurin, representing Dr. R. Bonin
Ms. D. Brown, representing Ms. K. Hedrich

Approval of Agenda:

On a motion by Mr. Baidoun, seconded by Mr. Counihan, the agenda was approved.

Remarks from the Chair:

Dr. Boisvert welcomed the graduate student representative, Mr. K. Lowther. The Chair also officially announced the appointment of Mr. R. Côté as Acting Dean of Students, effective 1 January until 31 May 1996.

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of 17 November:

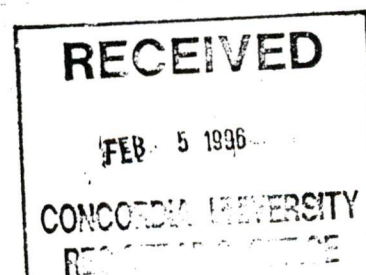
Mr. Baidoun asked for a correction in the spelling of his family name, which was noted. On a motion by Mr. Counihan, seconded by Ms. Robinson, the minutes, with the noted change, were approved.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

There was no business arising at this time.

Report from the Planning and Resources Committee:

Ms. A. Kerby, Co-Chair of the Committee gave a verbal report on the meeting held 11 December. There was discussion with the student representatives on the mandate and history of the committee. A number of documents were distributed as background information. The Committee agreed to evaluate and report to CCSL on the following issues: a) the Student Services 1996-97 budget; b) the Student Services Review; c) the future of the University (downsizing) and, d) Daycare. The Committee will next meet in January.



Student Life Issues:

Dr. Barlow responded to the issues which were raised at the last meeting:

1. Disabled Access - Ms. Kerby will update Council on this issue at the end of Dr. Barlow's verbal report.
2. Shuttle Bus Shelter, Loyola Campus - Council was informed that this project went to the preliminary design stage before being shelved. As Dr. Barlow had stated last year, there are a number of concerns and issues involved with erecting any type of shelter at Loyola. These range from obtaining city approval to objections from the local community. He said that eventually the focus of attention had shifted from building a structure to finding suitable alternative arrangements. The Campus Centre was suggested but it posed its own problems, such as lack of disabled access, limited space, and the issue of blocking an existing fire lane. Dr. Barlow again invited Council members to table some creative suggestions.

Mr. Baidoun, Mr. Counihan, Ms. Kerby, Mr. Lowther, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Feldman and Mr. Zarins responded to this issue.

After various suggestions were discussed and discarded, such as temporarily using the Chapel, the foyer of the Vanier Library, and the foyer of the Campus Centre with numbers being allocated for seats, Mr. Zarins suggested using the Athletic Building. This suggestion was considered to have merit and required further discussion.

On a motion by Mr. Baidoun, seconded by Mr. Counihan, it was moved that a task force would be implemented with the mandate of finding a solution to the lack of a bus shelter on the Loyola Campus. Members would include Dr. Barlow, or a delegate, Mr. Zarins, and 2 or 3 students. Dr. Barlow has consequently told the Secretary that his delegate will be Ms. S. Maynes. Mr. Feldman will recruit the students, convene the first meeting and report back to Council on the findings of the Task Force.

3. Escalator Maintenance - Dr. Barlow said that the main reason maintenance is not done off peak hours is cost. If there is any variation to the schedule, the outside contractor, which the University uses, is entitled to charge extra. Dr. Barlow also pointed out that any time the escalator breaks down, it has to be repaired immediately.

4. Building Closing - Dr. Barlow said that Mr. J. Bryson, Director, Maintenance, had met with Mr. Carruthers, President, CSU, and he was confident that the situation had been explained to everyone's satisfaction. The incident was unfortunate, but an isolated one and very unusual.

5. Clocks: Physical Plant, upon Dr. Barlow's request, had recently done a check of all clocks in the Hall Building and found that two were not working properly. Dr. Barlow explained that the Maintenance Department has been extremely hard hit by the recent ERIP retirements and budget cuts. He said that to be honest, clocks at this point were not a priority, and he feels that they will always be an issue, especially in the Hall Building.

6. VA Shuttle Bus: Mr. Di Grappa, Director, Administrative Services, was asked by Dr. Barlow to respond to this request. Mr. Di Grappa feels that this is not feasible for a number of reasons. The shuttle bus is set up to run between campuses, the stop at CONCAVE is done because it can be said that it is not on either campus. Any additional stops increase travel and turn around time, which has been greatly improved over the past few years. This request has been rejected on the grounds that it would slow down and impair the shuttle bus operation.

7. Washrooms: Dr. Barlow said that he was not aware of any change in the cleaning schedule, but did acknowledge that cleaning was the one area that has been most affected by budget cuts and staff retirements. On the Loyola Campus, five cleaners, in addition to the supervisor, have taken the Early Retirement Incentive Programme.

Dr. Barlow pointed out a problem when dealing with complaints: he asked that if a specific washroom or area is in need of attention, that the location be pin-pointed to save time. A suggestion being considered is to post identification signs in the washrooms of the Hall Building and the McConnell Building, which, if they are found to be in poor condition, can be used to alert the Work Control Centre. It is hoped that the service could be made more responsive in spite of less money and people.

Mr. Lowther asked for a copy of the cleaning schedule, which will be distributed by Ms. Chegrinec.

Ms. A. Kerby then addressed item #1, disabled access. She reported that she had met with R. Young, the Director of Construction Services, during the week and that the drawings for phase I of the project have been completed and the architects will meet in January. Work will commence in the spring on the automatic doors for the Hall Building. The more disruptive work on the AD elevators will have to wait until the summer.

In response to Mr. Baidoun's questions, Ms. Kerby explained that a proposal of \$2.38 million dollars had been sent to the government in 1993 to upgrade the disabled access. No response has yet been received, but the government did allow \$500,000 to be re-allocated to address the most pressing items.

Dr. Barlow then explained further about government funding and how under a special programme the government allowed certain saved funds to be re-allocated to specific projects. Initially monies were approved for roofs and windows on the Loyola Campus. Once this project was complete, funds still remained and the government approved more roofing and \$500,000 towards the disabled access request.

Mr. Feldman tabled a list of Student Life Issues, but prior to addressing these he asked about the practice of verifying Concordia IDs for use on the shuttle bus. It appears that the students are requesting that verification be made mandatory, especially when there are long line-ups or during exam periods. Mr. Feldman and Ms. Robinson spoke directly to this issue.

Mr. Baidoun raised the issue about having to deposit IDs at the Library. Ms. MacLaurin clarified that the Vanier Library is no longer requiring the leaving of IDs on a trial basis, and if it proves successful the practice will be eliminated at the Webster Library. Ms. MacLaurin did point out though that IDs are only requested for materials that cannot leave the Library, since the material can't be taken out of the Library the problem of having to leave an ID doesn't appear to be relevant.

Ms. Kerby said that getting IDs issued on the Loyola campus is difficult and Mr. Lowther asked about January entry students. J. Chegrinec will contact Ms. L. Prendergast, Acting Registrar, to get some clarification on the issue.

Mr. Feldman then returned to his original list of items:

1. Security and equipment for events - Mr. Feldman and Mr. Counihan met with Mr. Schofield, Director, Audio-Visual, and Mr. Locke, Security, Loyola. The result of the meeting was that neither of these areas can do anything to assist students in reducing costs. Mr. Schofield warned that trying to tap into the academic sector as a means of reducing expenses wasn't feasible since these types of events must be held within a classroom environment. Mr. Locke confirmed that any event held in a public place had to have appropriate security. The number of security personnel is based on the estimated number of people who will be in attendance.

A suggested solution was to look for monies elsewhere, either through CSU or special projects, an ideal solution from Mr. Feldman's view would be that a fund be created geared towards para-academic events. Since the budget for 1996-1997 is currently being discussed, Dr. Boisvert asked Mr. Feldman to forward a proposal on behalf of CCSL to him asking for the creation of such a fund within the upcoming budget period.

It was also suggested to Mr. Feldman that it would save considerable time on behalf of the student associations if they went through Conference Services for their

security needs. Dr. Barlow agreed that this would be one way to ensure that Security is advised of upcoming events in appropriate timeframes to make the necessary arrangements. Mr. Lowther indicated that there have been some problems in the past with Conference Services co-operating with student associations. J. Chegrinec will follow up on this with Mr. Macdonald and Mr. MacIver.

Ms. Kerby emphasized that the proposal should define criteria.

2. Residence Task Force - Mr. Counihan will address this item in his report.

3. Library Study Space - There were two issues which Mr. Feldman wanted to address, the first was the lack of use of the graduate study space and the overcrowding of undergraduate space. It appears that there was a recent incident where undergraduate students were asked to leave the graduate study space.

Ms. MacLaurin responded on behalf of the Library. She said she was aware of the incident and indicated that it was unusual. The undergraduate students were asked to leave because they were causing a disturbance. Graduate students and undergraduate students often share the space without any difficulties. Graduate students do have priority and undergraduate students will be asked to leave if they are causing a disturbance or if the room is too full.

The next issue was the use of the Library, especially during exam time, by non-Concordia students.

Ms. MacLaurin pointed out that signs are posted restricting access to Concordia students during the exam period. Random checks of IDs are made. A survey carried out last year indicated that despite appearances to the contrary 97% of the users of the Library is by Concordia students.

Mr. Lowther urged caution in restricting access since graduate students have access to the other Universities. As well, with the downsizing and co-operation between Libraries, cross-usage will become much more common.

Mr. Feldman complained that there just doesn't seem to be enough space. Ms. MacLaurin agreed that when the Webster Library opened it was acknowledged that there wasn't enough space for books and journals, but study space hasn't diminished. During exam time there is a lot of use of the facilities, but there are other locations available to students throughout the University during these periods.

4. Student Services Review - Dr. Boisvert provided the information that the report will be tabled in the spring.

5. Letter Dated March 14, 1994 - Mr. Feldman read a letter which had been sent to the Dean of Students on 14 March 1994 and to which he had yet to receive a reply. A copy of the letter was given to the Secretary for inclusion in the minutes. The Dean indicated to Mr. Al "Rhino" Feldman that the 63 cents will be paid in full!

Ms. Lipscombe informed Council that she had met with Mr. Côté about setting up a loan programme for books. A pilot project will be launched for the fall semester. The bookstore will be assuming all the risks and will evaluate the project. Although they can absorb a small amount they would have to reconsider the programme if the amount becomes too large. As always they will continue to provide emergency assistance for the January term.

Ms. MacLaurin said that Ms. Lipscombe has provided the Library with a list of class texts and the Library has asked faculty to provide at least one copy of each to be put on reserve.

Reports from the Directors:

Written reports were submitted by the Directors. Ms. Kerby announced that \$300 had been raised at the Student Services Holiday Party for the Spirit of Christmas and four boxes of toys were collected.

Dean of Students: Mr. Counihan read from a prepared text which he then distributed. (Copies available from J. Chegrinec). With reference to the Residence Task Force, it was noted that the final report will be delivered to Dr. Boisvert before the break.

Counselling & Development: Dr. Graub informed Council that a bi-annual report has been prepared and copies will be made available upon request. Following her presentation Dr. Graub distributed the document. (Copies available from J. Chegrinec).

There were no questions directed at either the Dean of Students or the Director of Counselling & Development.

Ms. Siano will report on Health Services at the next meeting of Council.

New Business:

None at this time.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of Council will be Friday, 12 January 1996, in H-769.

Termination of Meeting:

After wishing the best of the holiday season, Dr. Boisvert invited Council members to stay and mark the departure of Mr. Counihan, Dean of Students.

On a motion by D. Cooper, seconded by H. Zarins the meeting terminated at 12:20 p.m.